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**Eur päisches  
Patentamt**

Zweigstelle  
in Den Haag  
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La Haye  
Division de la  
recherche

Plas, Axel  
Alcatel Bell N.V.,  
Francis Wellesplein 1  
2018 Antwerpen  
BELGIQUE

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Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

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Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire

ALCATEL

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

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FILE



## REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT							
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)				
A	US 5 668 947 A (BATCHER KENNETH WILLIAM) 16 September 1997 (1997-09-16) * column 3, line 28 - line 59 * * column 7, line 38 - column 8, line 9 * * figures 2,4 * ---	1-10	G06F11/27				
A	US 5 961 653 A (MORI YOTARO ET AL) 5 October 1999 (1999-10-05) * column 2, line 23 - line 34 * * column 3, line 36 - line 43 * * column 6, line 15 - line 26 * * figure 4 * ---	1-10					
A	EP 0 953 988 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 3 November 1999 (1999-11-03) * column 2, line 48 - line 56 * * column 4, line 2 - line 35 * ---	1-10					
A	US 5 051 997 A (SAKASHITA NARUMI ET AL) 24 September 1991 (1991-09-24) * column 1, line 10 - line 14 * * column 4, line 4 - line 21 * * figure 2 * -----	1-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)  G06F				
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims							
Place of search <b>MUNICH</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>2 October 2003</b>	Examiner <b>Bauer, R</b>				
<table><tr><td>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</td><td>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</td></tr><tr><td>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</td><td></td></tr></table>				CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS	T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS	T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document						
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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02-10-2003

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